

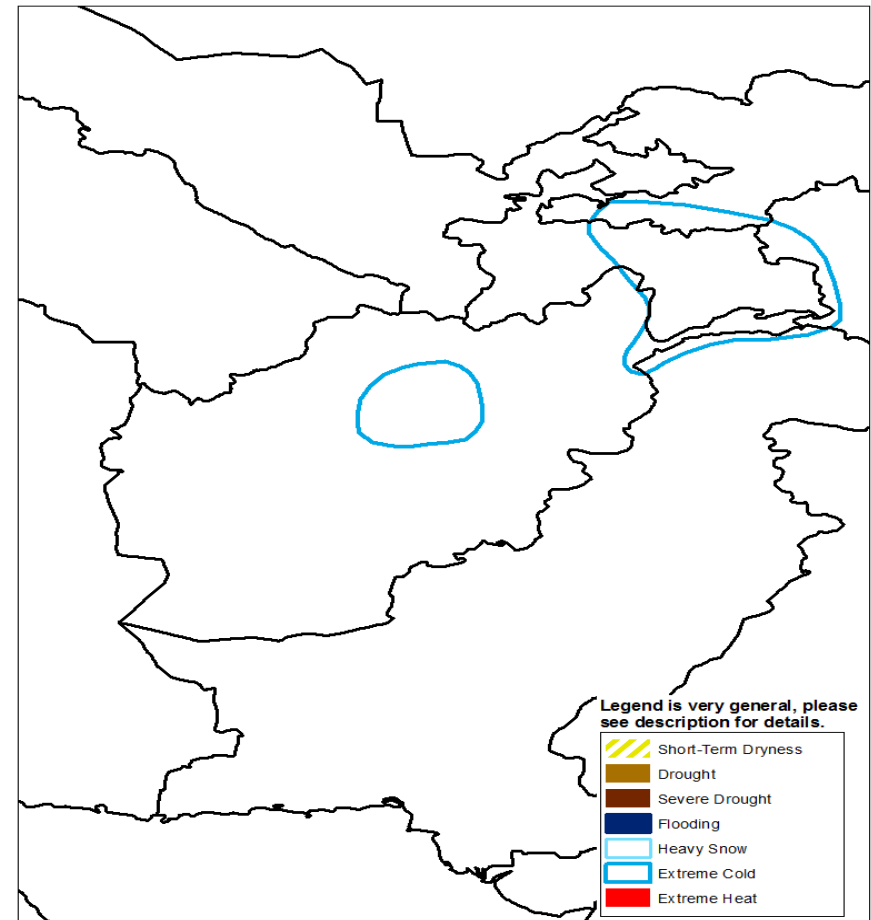
Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET December 21 – December 27, 2011

Temperatures:

During the beginning of December, temperatures averaged near to below normal across all of Afghanistan, a major difference from the above normal to well above normal temperatures that affected Afghanistan for the last several months. Below normal temperatures are forecast across most of Afghanistan for a third consecutive week. The largest negative anomalies (> 8 degrees C below normal) are expected in the central highlands and northern Afghanistan. Minimum temperatures may fall to between -35 to -40 degrees C in the northeast mountains and -30 to -35 degrees C in the central highlands where extreme cold hazards are posted.

Precipitation

Higher elevations maintained snow coverage and depths during the last seven days. During the past week, light showers, associated with a quick moving low pressure system, were observed across Afghanistan. Precipitation totals only ranged around 5 mm, liquid equivalent. Seasonal precipitation totals, though, remain near to above normal across Afghanistan due to above normal precipitation in November. For next week, dry conditions are expected to persist with a slight chance for light showers during the beginning and end of the observation period across northeast Afghanistan.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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